capital market come under the regulatory purview of SEBI. SEBI has so far identified 129 companies as 'vanishing' companies and has issued order to 51 companies and 142 promoters/directors of these companies, prohibiting them from associating with any capital market activity for a period of 5 years.

Companies which take deposits from the public are regulated by DCA. DCA has launched prosecution against 63 companies under the Companies Act, 1956.

The Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) are under the jurisdiction of RBI. RBI has launched prosecution proceedings against 24 NBFCs and has filed police complaints against another 10 companies.

Drug trafficking on Indo-Nepal Border

518. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drug trafficking, gold sumuggling, flesh trade and inflow of counterfeit currency has increased manifold on the Indo-Nepal border since 1994 and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps so far taken to curb the activities of smugglers on that border during the last two years and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) It is very difficult to quantify smuggling/drug trafficking being a clandestine activity. There is no evidence to take a view that drug trafficking/smuggling has gone up manifold along Indo-Negpal Border since 1994. As against 1082 kgs., 20221 kgs. & 4,140 kgs. of Charas, Ganja & Heroin (including Brown Sugar) respectively, seized in 1994 by three Customs Commissionerates along Indo-nepal Border & DRI, 1336 kgs. 9047 Kgs. & 12.445 Kgs. respectively were seized during 1999. Value of Bold seizures were placed at Rs. 30.6 Lakhs in 1994 & Rs. 69.4 Lakhs in 1999. Counterfeit currency—997 notes of Rs. 100/- Denomination each was also seized for the first time in 1999.

(b) All the three Commissionerates of Customs Preventive along

Indo-Nepal Border and DRI have been put on alert to guard against drug trafficking, gold smuggling and inflow of counterfeit currency. Effective steps are being taken by DRI & Preventive Commissionerates to collect intelligence in this regard and a close watch is being maintained on sensitive areas along Indo-Nepal Border to thwart any attempt of smuggling of the said items. As a result of this stepped up surveillance, greater quantities of drugs were seized in 1999 as compared to 1998 and one case of smuggling of counterfeit currency also detected.

Opposition to implementation of uniform sales Tax

519. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that uniform sales tax policy is being implemented since January 1, 2000;

(b) if so, the States which have implemented this policy;

(c) whether the confederation of All India Traders and some States have opposed the implementation of this policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof and their views on it; and

(e) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have implemented this policy.

(c) No such representation has been received. The decision to implement the policy was taken by all the States by consensus.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.